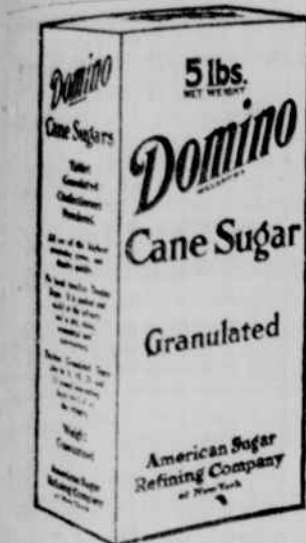


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## OPPOSE DIVIDING PRUSSIAN POLAND

### Diet Members Object to Taking Territory for New Kingdom

Amsterdam (via London), Nov. 19.—A dispatch from Berlin says that Conservatives, Independent Conservatives and National Liberal members of the Prussian Diet have asked the government to guarantee that no part of Prussian Poland shall be incorporated into the future kingdom of Poland.

Among the signers of the petition is Mr. von Kries, at present Civil Governor in Warsaw. The petition will be discussed in the Diet Monday.

Berlin Nov. 19 (by wireless to Sayville).—The semi-official "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung," says the Overseas News Agency, has published a reply to the Russian protest against the re-establishment of the kingdom of Poland, in which it is declared that the proclamation violated treaties solemnly sworn to by Germany and Austria-Hungary.

The news agency quotes the "Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung" as saying: "Such a treaty is unknown to us. Probably the Russian government refers to the treaty of the Vienna Congress. But these treaties have been riddled by several wars, and the Russian government, for good reasons, has preferred an obscure and vague expression."

An open reference to the Vienna Congress would have recalled that by no means was Poland added to Russia as a new province, but that by the consent of all the European powers the kingdom of Poland was established and the crown of the kingdom was conferred upon the czar.

"Russia used her military superiority and devoured independent Poland—deprived it step by step of all autonomy until even the name of Poland disappeared. All this was not based upon European treaties."

"The Central empires, therefore, have not violated the Vienna treaties of 1815 by re-establishing the kingdom of Poland, but on the contrary they have re-established the legal basis of 1815, which had been destroyed by Russia."

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## AUSTRIA FAVORS FAIR PEACE TALK

Will Not Confer While Entente Insists on Crushing Empire

WILSON'S OFFICES BELIEVED FUTILE

Allies Can Relieve Situation by Modifying Attitude, Says Vienna

Vienna, Nov. 19.—Interest in the announcement received in Vienna that President Wilson intends taking concrete action in behalf of peace continues unabated, though in many Austrian circles the view is held that the attitude of the Entente Powers will render Mr. Wilson's good offices futile. It is argued in government circles and in the press that so long as the Entente nations adhere to the programme recently reiterated by Premier Asquith and Viscount Grey there is really no occasion for Austria-Hungary to show great interest in the proposed action, as the Entente government officials asserted that the war objectives were not discussable.

This aspect, it is pointed out in government circles, could only be changed by a readiness of the Entente to proceed from a quite different base. With the Entente willing to discuss peace on terms of the reestablishment of pre-war conditions, so modified as to take into account the suffered interests of the Central Powers, Austria-Hungary's attitude might be expected to change.

Entente Attitude Too One-sided

As the matter stands, certain government circles hold that little can be gained by declaring a readiness to meet the Entente on a peace preliminary so long as the latter has failed to indicate that it would be content with much less than the recent speeches made in London show. It is felt by Austrian officials that the acceptance of an invitation for such a conference, with the Entente holding out for a programme which is little short of the total annihilation of the Central Powers and their allies, would be equal to acknowledging that the Central Powers were ready to secure peace on any terms.

While President Wilson's good intentions are not in the least doubted, and while his offer might gladly be accepted, it is pointed out that the Entente Powers would gain undue and unjustified encouragement if Austria-Hungary were to pit its own modest claims against those of the Entente still seeking the Dual Monarchy's dismemberment.

There is no doubt in the minds of Austrians in a position to know that the Central Powers are ready for negotiations, but nothing short of the conditions outlined in the foregoing would induce them in the present military situation to join a conference such as is understood here to have been proposed by President Wilson.

Press Opposes Blind Conference

The second instalment of Austrian press comments mirrors this strongly. The first warm welcome given to the Wilson idea gradually is making room for the attitude that to send delegates to a preliminary conference with the Entente still insisting upon the emancipation of the Central Powers is unthinkable.

In view of these facts it may be announced that peace negotiations of any sort, even a preliminary conference for defining the minimum claims of all the belligerents, will remain impossible so long as the Entente Powers do not beforehand indicate a readiness to abandon their present attitude.

Though Austria-Hungary is not averse to seizing the opportunity to demonstrate in conference under American auspices her protestations made in the past, it is argued that entering negotiations on such an unequal basis as the Entente's attitude toward the Central Powers gives would be paying too high a price for even the interesting spectacle of having the Entente governments inform President Wilson they had nothing to arbitrate.

No Basis for Peace Talk, U. S. Officials Declare

Washington, Nov. 19.—It is assumed in official circles here that Austrian discussion of the prospect of a move in behalf of peace by President Wilson is based upon some unfounded rumor or misinterpretation of one of the President's speeches during the campaign advocating a world league for peace to make another such war as that now raging in Europe impossible.

The President, it is understood, has not changed his opinion that any action by him at the present stage of the European conflict would be ill-timed and futile unless the belligerent nations indicated that it would be well and it is authoritatively stated that no immediate step is in contemplation.

## Cathedral Hit by 1,000 Shells, Rheims Fears Roof Will Fall

Supports of Two-Foot-Thick Stone Covering Shot Away—Germans Fire on Workers Seeking to Minimize Damage to Edifice

Rheims, Nov. 19.—On November 1 the thousandth German shell struck the Cathedral of Rheims. Ever since the recent French drive at Verdun salvos of shells have been poured daily into Rheims, many striking the cathedral. Four of the flying buttresses supporting the roof of the nave have been demolished and several others hit. As the weight of the stone roof, which is about two feet thick, is borne almost entirely by these flying buttresses, the danger of its fall has become imminent.

Other parts of the beautiful architecture and statuary have suffered irreparable damage and this increases daily, but as their destruction does not effect the stability of the building their loss is felt only from the viewpoint of art.

The fears of the authorities have been increased by the usually severe rainy season, which this year has been uninterrupted for many weeks. The timber and leaden roofs of the cathedral having been destroyed early in the bombardment, the rain falls into the building through the shell holes in the stone roof and washes away layer after layer of the calcined stone of the interior, leaving muddy puddles on the floor and gradually percolating through to the crypts and foundations.

Endeavors were made at first to deal with this peril to the cathedral by employing men to clear away the water and at the same time to prop up parts of the building in danger of falling. The Germans, however, who keep close watch on all that is going on within the town, fired on the working parties, and the effort had to be abandoned.

Strict orders have been issued against visitors being permitted to enter the building, and these are de-

clined from only with the express consent of the military authorities. The correspondent, who at the beginning of the war was one of the first to be allowed to witness the destruction caused by the German shells, again received permission to view the interior. Inside every particle of woodwork, except a few splintered staves and the pulpit, has been removed in order to save the cathedral from fire. The bare cathedral could thus be seen in all its beautiful architectural lines.

The unique rose window above the front portal, whose stained glass was considered as the finest specimen of that art, is in a sad state of destruction. Most of the panes have disappeared, and those which remain hung to the leaden frames only awaiting an extra shock of vibration to fall. The bells in the belfry are held in their places by ropes, for shells have destroyed their supports. Fragments of statuary strew the floor.

Outside the main portals are now protected by sandbags, but all their stone ornamentation disappeared during the first bombardment. All around the roof the delicate stone colonnades show signs of toppling over. The bishop's house, by the side of the cathedral, has almost disappeared, and every house in the line of fire from the German batteries is a mere shell.

Population Greatly Reduced

The population, which before the war was considerably more than 100,000, has been reduced to approximately 18,000. Stores of food keep open in some of the streets, but whenever the arrival of a salvo of shells from a German battery announces that the town is about to be bombarded, these are closed and their proprietors, as well as the other inhabitants, retreat to their cellars.

Some of those, however, who have remained in the town since the German evacuation have been so accustomed to the danger that they decline to leave their work unless the shelling becomes unusually severe. For this reason scarcely ever does a bombardment occur without causing some casualties among the civil population.

U-BOAT POLICY TO BE MORE RIGID

Wilson to say that neutrality is "intolerable." War has become so world-wide, so unlimited as to national boundaries, that it is no longer the host of the world, that it is involved.

First and oldest of the Entente Allies, restrictions in the blockade, under our government has declared illegal because it is both ineffective and discriminatory in favor of Norway and Sweden, in that it does not block the Baltic, and because it attempts to blockade neutral ports contiguous to Germany, to which British goods are allowed to go. The case dates back to March 11, 1915, and the last note was the British refusal of April 24 last.

Bitter Blockade Protest

The rationing of Holland, Norway and Sweden and Denmark has been bitterly condemned in the blockade notes, where it has been held to be an absolutely unwarrantable interference with neutral trade directly between two neutral countries. England invokes the doctrine of continuous voyage and allows only enough supplies to enter these neutral countries to meet their minimum needs, despite the fact that goods imported to a neutral country become part of its capital stock, subject to reexportation if desired.

A not less "lawless practice" has been the Entente Allied censorship of mails, which has been called "vexatious, inquisitorial." Here again is an absolute conflict between neutral and belligerent rights. Neutrals have the right of inviolability of genuine correspondence; belligerents have the right to search mails for contraband.

The British refusal of the American attitude as to the blacklist, which was called an "arbitrary interference with neutral trade," has just come, and will require an answer. The British claim it is merely municipal legislation to prevent their own subjects from dealing with firms aiding the enemy, even if in neutral countries. The United States holds that, in effect, this is extending British control over into American affairs.

Import Restriction Galling

The prohibition of importation of raw materials from the British dominions into this country except under guarantee that they will not reach German firms is another galling restriction, not so much because the right of embargo is disputed as that in its administration the British Embassy here decides finally what firms shall and what firms shall not be favored. This gives a control over American industries and a knowledge of American trade secrets that is resented.

To meet these trade restrictions is the retaliatory legislation passed at the eleventh hour by Congress. Intensive study is being given it, though no announcement of its application has been made. It may be applied to all cases, or to only certain specific cases, and may be invoked whenever the President desires. It can reach all the points of issue above.

Beyond the war, the President must decide America's attitude toward the peace conference. Will a place be demanded against the express desires of the Entente? Undoubtedly American interests will be involved, notably in China and the Pacific Islands taken from Germany, and also in the effort to secure a basis for a lasting peace and in the necessary rewriting of international law.

The trade war after the war offers most tangled problems. Great doubt is felt that it can go through, because it is admittedly uneconomic and unreasonable in that the Entente allied nations are competitive rather than co-ordinative and because free commercial intercourse will be essential to all.

To Urge Webb Bill's Passage

Nevertheless its approval by the Paris conference and its increasing agitation abroad make preparation against it necessary. The Webb bill, now before Congress, to permit co-operation among exporters, will be one of the first steps urged.

Most vital of all, perhaps, is President Wilson's advocacy of a league of nations to guarantee against another war. Admittedly this destroys American isolation and commits the nation to active interest in and cooperation with other countries. The British, French and German foreign secretaries

## LIBEL GUARD SITS ON DEUTSCHLAND

Cold-Eyed Will Whiffen, A. B., Gives U-Liner No Chance to Flee

MORE ATTACHMENTS TO BE FILED TO-DAY

Koenig's Method of Clearing Questioned—Boat Ready for Run

(From a Staff Correspondent of The Tribune.)

New London, Conn., Nov. 19.—This, thanks to Will Whiffen, A. B., has been one day without worry for the newspaper men waiting here to see the Deutschland off. It was Will's sworn duty to see that the slippery submarine stayed put—and Will, with a belligerent little tuft of whiskers on his chin and a cold blue eye, looked a man not likely to fail of his purpose.

Through all the day he sat smoking his pipe on the libelled Deutschland's deck, his chair comfortably tilted back against her superstructure. At his feet, tacked to the plank, was the notice of seizure placed there by Deputy United States Marshal Hawley after the T. A. Scott Towing Company had libelled the submarine for \$12,000 to cover the loss of the tug T. A. Scott, Jr.

Temporarily, the Deutschland was Will's home—and his alone. Not even Captain Paul Koenig could come aboard without getting Will's permission. Koenig and his crew, dispossessed, looked wistfully down on him from the deck of the mother ship Willehad.

Will Makes Himself at Home

Will slept aboard the submarine last night and again to-night. When he wakes he will surrender his job to another keeper, for the Eastern Forwarding Company plans to file a bond in the Admiralty Court the first thing in the morning.

With the filing of the bond the Deutschland will be automatically released from United States custody. But she will find herself immediately in much hotter water. Deputy Chief J. H. Tabbs will be on hand, as Will Whiffen passes back into obscurity, to attach the merchantman in the damage suits brought by relatives of the men who were lost with the tug.

There are now three suits pending, of \$50,000 each—one brought by the widow of Captain John Gurney, one by the widow of Engineer William A. Caton and the third by the parents of Clarence B. Davidson, a cook. It is understood a fourth suit, for a like amount, will be started to-morrow in behalf of relatives of Edward Stone, a fireman aboard the Scott.

The other sailor lost was Eugene Duzant, the Scott's deck hand. Duzant was not a New Londoner.

C. Hadali Hull, of the law firm representing the complainants, said to-night that the doings of the officers of the Deutschland the night before she sailed certainly would prove relevant testimony when the cases are tried. Mr. Hull, however, will not subpoena them. He already has rounded up a sufficient number of witnesses, he says, to trace their movements as they took leave of New London.

Conflict of Commanders

Another matter that will be gone into is a reported conflict of judgment between Captain Koenig and Captain Frederick Hinch, of which Mr. Hull has heard. Hinch, it is said, insisted that the Deutschland be conveyed out by tugs. Koenig, who had found his way into the harbor without assistance, was anxious, it is said, to leave in the same self-reliant way.

"We haven't been able to get Captain Hinch's complete story," Mr. Hull continued. "But we have heard enough to make meat for cross-examination should he take the stand."

The allegations set up by the complainants will follow in a general way those on which the Scott Company's libel is based. The relatives' suits were brought in the Connecticut Superior Court that trial by jury might be had, it is explained.

Charles W. Field, an expert on admiralty law, is here from Baltimore in behalf of the Deutschland's owners. He told Mr. Hull to-day that he viewed the accident as unavoidable, the fault of no one in particular. But with others he refused even to disclose that much of his viewpoint.

Repairs on the Deutschland have been completed, and she is in readiness to make another run for it as soon as bonds have been put up to cover claims in the damage suits. In all, she will have to leave behind securities to the value of \$212,000, which is close to half her value.

Teaching Poles to Fill Offices

Berlin, Nov. 19 (by wireless to Sayville).—Warsaw University opened to-day a series of lectures to prepare Poles for the higher Polish administrative offices, says the Overseas News Agency. Of the 450 applicants 100 persons were admitted. Lectures will be given later on preparation for minor government offices.

A Treasure House of Anecdotes.

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Full of intimate glimpses of great personalities—J. M. Barrie, Maude Adams, John Drew and Ethel Barrymore, William Gillette, Sothern and Marlowe, Otis Skinner, Billie Burke, Pinero, William Collier, Margaret Anglin, Edna May, and the great galaxy of Frohman stars. His own life, from the days of boyhood to his tragic death.

By ISAAC F. MARCOSSON and DANIEL FROHMAN

THE FIRST HOLDER OF THE OFFICE WILL BE M. OLOVIEV, State Railway Director, who is Under Secretary for Munitions.

GERMAN FLIERS HIT FURNES

Several Fires Seen in Belgian Town Near North Sea

Zerlin, Nov. 19.—German naval airplanes, on the night of November 16-17, according to an official statement issued to-day by the German Admiralty, dropped bombs, with good success, on the Belgian town of Furnes, in West Flanders, near the North Sea, and on the flying ground at Coyxide, five miles northwest of Furnes. The bombs, which were mostly of a heavy type, were of a total weight of about 2,250 pounds.

In Furnes, the statement says, several conflagrations were observed. One airplane by its machine gun fire rendered unserviceable two searchlights near Coyxide.

The British Admiralty, on November 15, says the Overseas News Agency, announced that in the early hours of that day Zebrugge and Ostend again were heavily bombed by direct hits were observed in the Atelier de la Marine and close to the power station. It was further stated that a large fire, probably emanating from petroleum stores, also was observed.

It is declared by a competent German authority, says the Overseas News Agency, that the British report was not quite correct, since all the bombs dropped at Zebrugge fell into the water.

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The lasts are of a superior character; the finish of every shoe is up to the rigid Saks standard.

## SANK ARABIA AS AN ARMED SHIP

Berlin Says Steamer Was Carrying Workmen and War Material

BRITISH BLAMED FOR RISKING LIVES

Four More Ships Destroyed, 2 English, 1 Portuguese, 1 Italian

Berlin, Nov. 19.—The British steamer ship Arabia, sunk by a German submarine on November 6, was acting as an armed transport at the time of her sinking off the coast of Malta, according to an Overseas News Agency statement to-day. The Arabia was carrying a 15-centimetre gun and was transporting hundreds of workmen and war materials to France, the Agency declares.

"If the English government admitted passengers on board an armed transport steamer," the statement says, "the lives of non-combatants were frivolously risked, as in former cases."

"The German Admiralty on November 15 reported that a German submarine, eighty miles west of Malta, sank a 12,000-ton hostile transport sailing under convoy," says the statement. "The British Admiralty declares this report to be incorrect, since no transport but the liner Arabia was sunk without warning by a German submarine November 6 at a point 300 miles east of Malta."

"This is an evident attempt to mislead public opinion, for the following reasons: As reported by the German Admiralty November 15, a Ger-

## CRISIS IN BORDER CONFERENCE NEAR

Continued from page 1

Two Mexican women had married Chinese, and their five harrowed children were found and thrown alive into the fire and cremated in sight of the crowd. The bodies of seven murdered Chinese, according to the same authority, were seen in the streets of the town.

Two Mexicans who escaped from Parral affirm that they saw four Americans there under a Villa guard. They said these men had lived in the town. They heard that the Americans working at the Alvarado mines got away. Another report to the border was to the effect that the bodies of thirty-five gypsies of both sexes were seen on the roadside near Parral, murdered and robbed by Villa bandits. The gypsies were believed to be of Syrian origin.

All foreigners that Villa has caught, except the Japanese and Germans, have been put to death, the reports agree, and even the Germans are said to have suffered, at least in the instance of Theodore Hoemuller, of Parral. Various reports of Hoemuller's death have been received here during the last week.

The Chinese are called the heaviest sufferers. The fact that none are to be seen in the district in which they formerly did a large mercantile business is taken by the refugees as proof that all, numbering over two hundred, met the fate of the Chinese caught at Parral and Jimenez.

Skull Fractured; Lived 12 Days

For nearly two weeks Thomas H. Conquest, forty-five years old, of Wood-

side, Long Island, went about his daily affairs as usual with a fractured skull and bits of bone pressing upon his brain. Not until he became partly paralyzed and unable to speak last Saturday did he or any one else realize the seriousness of an injury he had received in a fall on November 6. Conquest died yesterday in the Greenpoint Hospital, in Brooklyn, following an operation.

HOTEL INSURES WORKERS

William C. Muschenheim, proprietor of the Hotel Astor, has given each of his 1,400 employees a life insurance policy in appreciation of their loyalty and service. The total amount for which they are insured is more than \$250,000. To those workers employed at the hotel a year or less Mr. Muschenheim gave a policy for \$500. He added \$100 to this for each extra year of service.

Thomas Horton, who has been with the Astor's proprietor for the last thirty years, received the largest policy—one for \$3,400. Peter, the head waiter in the Louis Room, received a policy for \$3,000. His term of service has been twenty-six years.

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